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The Municipalities of the Roman Empire. By James S. Reid. xv and 548 pp. Index. University Press, Cambridge. G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York, 1913. 9 x 6.

A most valuable work. It is not a book to be cursorily read. It must be carefully studied. Not a word, still less a sentence, is to be overlooked, lest the thread be lost in the enormous accumulation of facts. The treatment of these facts is, however, logical but of rare terseness. It may be said that there is a decided leaning towards admiration of everything Roman, yet it is not at all offensive, and justice is done to other influences not emanating from Latin sources. Dr. Reid's appreciation of Hellenic culture and its intellectual power in the Roman world is not only just but, in many instances, highly complimentary. In a word, he judges with great impartiality and always on the basis of vast material. The book gives an exceedingly detailed picture of the political geography of the Roman Empire and its gradual development. There is hardly a settlement that is not mentioned and, what is most important, accurately located as far as possible. The book may be regarded as a political map of ancient Rome in words; and much is given regarding the physical geography of the vast area covered, hydrography, orography, the vegetation as far as culture plants, indigenous and imported, affected Roman civilization and were in turn affected by it. In short, it is a vivid description of the land of ancient Rome, its people and its vicissitudes to the Fifth Century, the time of its dissolution. AD. F. BANDELIER.

Geschichte der Türken. Von Dr. Albrecht Wirth. 2. verbesserte und vermehrte Auflage. 115 pp. Ills., index. Franckh'sche Verlagshandlung, Stuttgart, 1912. Mk. 2. 10½ x 7.

This is an essentially popular sketch of Turkish history in Europe which will serve the purposes of ordinary reference. The upheaval of the Balkan States provided the occasion for this edition in which the record of events has been brought down to December, 1912. Without pretence of being more than an occasional book and in no sense intended to take the place of greater historical treatises this brief narrative will be found to contain an astonishingly large amount of those details of Turkish history which are in general so hard to find. The richness of this detail would have been brought to better use by an index better than that which the volume has received.

The History of the Italian-Turkish War. Sept. 29, 1911, to Oct. 18, 1912. By Commodore W. H. Beehler. 118 pp. Maps. Reprinted with additions from *Proceedings of the U. S. Naval Institute*. W. H. Beehler, Annapolis, Md. \$1. 9½ x 6½.

Based upon semi-official and other reliable data. A straightforward account of the origin, progress and conclusion of the war by a distinguished naval officer who describes the conditions under which war was made and tells the whole story without technical detail, mentioning all facts that were important in shaping events and results.

ECONOMIC AND COMMERCIAL GEOGRAPHY

Mémoire sur les Travaux du Conseil Permanent International pour l'Exploration de la Mer pendant les Années 1902-1912. Rédigé par C. F. Drechsel. 83 pp. Copenhagen, 1913. 10½ x 8½.

Published in German and English. The International Investigation of the Sea has been carried on by all the countries bordering on the North Sea and the Baltic for eleven years. The United States is in future to participate in the work. The International Council in September last year decided that a memorandum should be prepared, with the assistance of special experts, on the organization of this work, its programme and the results thus far achieved. The work has been comprehensive and the regions studied have included large parts of the Atlantic from the Arctic circle to the coast of Africa, the North Sea and the Baltic, with the waters between them. The Mediterranean also has, at times, been the scene of observations.

The Bureau has published an important amount of literature, giving the results of this study. This material is available to all who desire to study closely the results of the work. This memorandum, however, is most welcome because it gives the results in concise form conveying to any intelligent reader a good idea of the purposes and work of the Bureau. The memorandum is divided into two parts, the first giving the objects, programme, and organization, and the second describing the work carried out and its more important results. The most essential object of investigation is to procure the necessary data for international agreements as to protecting fisheries from overfishing and the establishment of measures for the improvement of the fisheries.

Maritime Enterprise, 1485-1558. By James A. Williamson. 416 pp. Index. Clarendon Press, Oxford, 1913. Oxford Univ. Press, New York. \$4.75. 9 x 6.

One of the themes in this work is to make it plain why England, with a more modern record of dominance of the sea, was so backward in coming into enjoyment of the great discoveries in the Americas. Contributory to this theme is a careful study of the character of Sebastian Cabot. Mr. Williamson, with the aid of fresh study of the evidence, reaches the conclusion that, while Sebastian was a not particularly noble seafarer nor bigoted in his veracity, yet he was not so complete a liar as has been thought. The maritime backwardness of England is analyzed in its connection with the laws of trade based upon the wholly medieval foundations of the wool staple and cloth industry. The writer closes his investigation at the point where the English merchants were ridding themselves of the distributing machinery of the Hanseatic League and taking over command of sea carrying trade for themselves. The work thus serves as a very satisfactory introduction to Froude's "English Seamen of the Sixteenth Century."

WILLIAM CHURCHILL.

The Geology of Soils and Substrata, with special reference to Agriculture, Estates, and Sanitation. By Horace B. Woodward. xvi and 366 pp. Ills., index. Longmans, Green & Co., New York, 1912. \$2.50. 7½ x 5.

This book contains a vast amount of information concerning soils and bed rock in a great variety of relationships. It is written largely from the point of view of England and Wales and is intended for a practical treatise for students and teachers of agriculture, superintendents of estates and engineers. The first part of the book is a general discussion with a wide range of subjects; weathering, analyses, fertility, drainage, manures, orchards, mineral rights, sites for houses, sewage, cemeteries, and so on. The second part treats of the geological formations of England and Wales beginning with the recent (Quaternary) deposits and the succeeding chapters with formations going back through the geologic ages to the Archæan. In each case the chief characteristics of the formation are given, the localities where it is found are described and the uses and values of the areas for agriculture or for building sites are indicated.

ROBERT M. BROWN.

The Conquest of Bread. By P. Kropotkin. xvi and 298 pp. Chapman & Hall, Ltd., London, 1913. 1s. 7 x 4½.

"In our civilized societies," writes Kropotkin, "we are rich. Why then are the many poor? Why this painful drudgery for the masses?"

In this book he answers these questions, and going further he outlines, carefully and in detail, the programme that would be followed by the Socialists if a Communist revolution were to take place in any nation or group of nations. He considers the various objections offered to the Communism which he upholds, and answers these objections from his own point of view.

WILBUR GREELEY BURROUGHS.

Unsere Kohlen. Von Paul Kukuk. Series: Aus Natur und Geisteswelt. ix and 120 pp. Map, ill., index. B. G. Teubner, Leipzig, 1913. Mk. 1.50. 7½ x 5.

This handy little volume is "an introduction to the geology of coal, includ-